

PREFACE

Federal Lands Highway (FLH) has developed the 2006 *Project Development and Design Manual* to provide current policies and guidance for the interdisciplinary project development and design related activities performed by FLH Divisions and their Consultants. It also serves as a guide for administrators, public officials and others, both within and outside FLH, who are responsible for advancing projects through the project development process.

The purpose of this *Manual* is to:

- provide current policies, standards, criteria and guidance for development and design of FLH projects;
- be easily accessed by internal and external participants in the project development process;
- be user-friendly with useful navigation and search tools;
- provide immediate access to approved external references; and
- be frequently updated to maintain credibility.

A primary goal of this *Manual* is clarifying what is expected for FLH projects and delivering an end product that meets these expectations. The previous edition of the *Manual* has been converted from a policy/procedures hard copy format manual to a policy/best practices, interactive web-based document with electronic links. Any theory-specific procedures or recommended methods, including computer software, are included in the updated *Manual* by reference only. This *Manual* is not a technical “how to” instructional guide.

The *Manual* is a complete PDF web-based document allowing faster downloading, clearer formatting, word searches through Adobe Acrobat and hypertext links to reference documents and technical information. The *Manual* defines FLH policies, standards and standard practices, criteria, guidance and discretionary expectations for project development.

The FLH Functional Discipline Leaders and their respective teams prepared this edition of the *Manual*, with assistance from engineering consultants. The FLH Functional Discipline Leaders wish to express their appreciation to all contributors who assisted in the development of this *Manual*, specifically the contributions of the following:

- FLH Division Engineers and Directors,
- FLH Branch Chiefs,
- FLH Staff,
- materials furnished by other State and Federal agencies,
- research publications and materials furnished by the private sector,
- Consultants who contributed to the preparation, and
- Federal land management agency partners and other reviewers.